

Thomas M. Bowen

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NOTABLE DEATHS.

EDWIN HURD CONGER, born to Lorentus E. and Mary (Hurd) Conger, March 7, 1843, in Knox county, Illinois, was of the sixth generation after Reuben Conger, first of that name in America. Edwin H. took the public school course, then graduated from Lombard University, class of 1862. He enlisted almost immediately in Co. I, 102d Ill. Volunteer Infantry, became first lieutenant Sept. 2, 1862, and was promoted to the captaincy Oct. 12, 1863, won the brevet of major for "gallant and meritorious conduct on the field" and was mustered out with his regiment June 6, 1865. Graduating from the Albany Law School in 1866 he entered the practice at Galesburg where he continued until his purchase of and removal to a farm in Madison county, Iowa, in 1868. In 1874 he removed to Dexter, Dallas county, a few miles from his farm, and engaged in banking as successor to his father then lately deceased. Dallas county Republicans nominated him for County Treasurer in 1877, his election following, and a re-election in 1879. Iowa Republicans chose him as a candidate for State Treasurer in 1880, his election and a re-election following. The Seventh Iowa District, consisting then of Adair, Dallas, Guthrie, Madison, Marion, Polk and Warren counties, elected him over Judge W. H. McHenry to the 49th Congress, Speaker Carlisle appointing him on the Committee of Invalid Pensions. He was returned over W. L. Carpenter to the 50th and assigned to the Committee on Agriculture and to the 51st over Allen E. Morrison, Democrat, and J. A. Nash, Prohibitionist and labor candidate. Speaker Reed reassigned him to the Committee on Agriculture, and placed him on those of Banking and Currency and of Coinage, Weights and Measures. Successful advocacy of his bill for the prevention of adulteration of lard gained him great credit. President Harrison appointed Mr. Conger Minister to Brazil, where a successful service was interrupted by a change of administration, but after an engagement in business in Des Moines, during which time he was an Iowa elector at large to the St. Louis convention of 1896, President McKinley reappointed him to the post in Brazil, transferring him in 1898 to China. President Roosevelt advanced Mr. Conger to the embassy to Mexico in which post he completed his public service and resigned in October, 1905. Mr. Conger's diplomatic service was highly creditable throughout, was especially distinguished during the Brazilian revolution of 1893, and rose to international importance in the Chinese Boxer siege of 1900.

On the 22d of June, 1866, at Galesburg Mr. Conger was united in marriage with Miss Sarah J., a daughter of E. W. and Laura Pike. They became parents to a son and daughter, the latter, Laura V., wife of Lieutenant Buchan of the army, only surviving. Mr. Conger retired to private life in Pasadena, California, where Mrs. Conger now resides and where he died May 17, 1907, and was laid to rest. He was a Knight Templar, a member of the Loyal Legion and of the Military Order of the Dragon.

E. R. H.

THOMAS M. BOWEN, the pioneer of Iowa-born legislators and public officials, died at his home in Denver, Colo., Dec. 30, 1906. General Bowen was born in the county of "De Moin," Territory of Michigan, Oct. 26, 1835. The place is understood to be near the present city of Burlington, but before there was such a city, and even before an "Iowa" appeared on any map. A part of his schooling was at

the Iowa wesleyan University at Mount Pleasant. He was admitted to the bar before he attained his majority. He was also elected to the House of Representatives before he was of age. Before the Legislature met, however, he was out of his minority; and in December, 1856, he took his seat in the 6th General Assembly, which was the last to meet at Iowa City. He represented the counties of Wayne and Decatur. A year or two after his Iowa legislative experience, he removed to Kansas. On the outbreak of hostilities against the Union, he went into the service as captain of Company F, in the First Nebraska Infantry. He subsequently recruited and commanded the Thirteenth Kansas regiment, continuing in the service until the end of the war; first, in the Army of the Frontier, and later in the Seventh Army Corps, at times commanding brigade and division. He was brevetted brigadier-general. After the war he remained in Arkansas for several years, and was a member of a convention that framed a constitution for the State, and presided in that convention. Later, Gen. Bowen was one of the justices of the Supreme Court of the State. In 1871 President Grant appointed him Governor of the Territory of Idaho, but he resigned before the close of that year. In 1873 he was a candidate for United States Senator from Arkansas, but Stephen W. Dorsey was his successful competitor. In January, 1875, he removed to Colorado. There, on the establishment of the State government, he was chosen District Judge, serving in that capacity for four years. In 1882 he was chosen a member of the Legislature of that State, and, while acting as such he was elected a Senator of the United States, in the room of Horace A. W. Tabor, who had been chosen to fill out the term of Henry M. Teller. Six years later he gave place to Edward O. Walcott. After that time he devoted his attention largely to the extensive mining interests in which he was concerned.—W. H. F.

EUGENE S. ELLSWORTH was born in Milwaukee county, Wis., Nov. 2, 1848; he died in Iowa Falls, Iowa, Feb. 15, 1907. He served in the civil war as a drummer boy in a Wisconsin company commanded by his father, Capt. Ellsworth. In 1863 he removed to Iowa Falls, Iowa, then more than fifty miles from the nearest railroad. He foresaw the possibilities of the State and began at once to aid in its development and growth. He built up an extensive real estate and loan business. When the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern railroad was built, he organized a town lot company and was its manager for eight years, during which time an immense business was done in developing the country and founding towns along that line of railroad. He became president of the First National Bank of Iowa Falls, and a stockholder in two others. His last work was the building of the Des Moines, Iowa Falls & Northern. His benefactions to Iowa Falls have been many and have been directed toward the building of an opera house, the Ellsworth Hospital, a Carnegie Library building, Ellsworth College and a fine city park system. Through his great energy and rare business capacity he accumulated a large fortune which he was investing in schemes for the benefit of the people. His death is a sad loss to his town and to the State at large.

SIMEON S. DANIELS was born in Post Mills, Vt., May 27, 1822; he died at Mount Pleasant, Iowa, Feb. 6, 1907. He came with his parents to Oberlin, Ohio, in 1834. Here young Daniels grew to manhood and was educated in the college which has since become one of the notable educational institutions in this country. He studied law in

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